

WOKING URBAN

SANITARY DISTRICT.

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ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT FOR 1894.

BY

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Prepared in accordance with Section 14 of the Order of the Local Government Board, dated 23rd March, 1891, regulating the duties of Medical Officers of Health.

II.—Topography, Geology, Water Supply, &c.

Your District is by far the largest in area of any Urban District in Surrey, and, I believe, is second to none in England. Till the end of 1893, when it was constituted a separate Urban District, it was a Parish under the Guildford Rural Sanitary Authority.

It comprises 8889 acres, and is bounded on the north by the parishes of Horsell and Pirbright ; on the north-west by Pirbright ; on the west by Worplesdon ; on the south by Worplesdon ; on the east by Send ; and on the north east by Pyrford. The greatest width from east to west is six miles, namely, between Newark Abbey and Sheet's Heath, in the north of the Parish ; whilst the greatest depth from north to south is four and a quarter miles—that is, from the old Roman Tumuli near the Dramatic College in the north, to the River Wey, near Sutton Place, in the south. The River Wey runs through the south-eastern corner of the Parish, and for a short distance forms the boundary line between Send and Woking. The Basingstoke Canal also runs through the Parish from Pirbright Bridge, and continues in a north-easterly direction through the Wards of Knaphill and Brookwood, St. John's, and Goldsworth, and Woking Station.

Since the last Local Government Board Enquiry in the District, I have collected various facts and information in respect to the geological formation, elevations, and general contour of this extensive Parish, which, I trust, will be of specific value to the Council when considering any further scheme for the drainage of the District.

At the south-eastern end of your District you are only at 65 feet above ordnance datum, this being the lowest portion of the Parish. Woking Station stands at 125 feet, and Knapp Hill, at your north-western extremity, rising to nearly 190 feet. It is, therefore, obvious that the natural fall of the District is towards the River Wey, which is your south-eastern boundary.

Rather more than two-thirds of your area is of Middle and Lower Bagshot bed formation, and in about equal proportions. The middle beds are well seen at Hook Heath and Knapp Hill, the Station and Maybury Districts being of the lower strata.

The soil of the remaining third of the parish is composed of gravel, Upper Bagshot layer, and alluvium. Gravel is found stretching in a uniform bed nearly half-a-mile wide in the south and south-eastern portions of the District, and is, as it were, a natural filtration area.

The only alluvial deposits are those which (1) follow the course of the Hoe Brook from its entry into the Parish at Kemish Ford to its junction with the Wey near Newark Abbey ; and (2) similar deposits accompanying the Wey as it skirts your boundary.

The Upper Bagshot sands are entirely confined to the cemetery at Brookwood and that portion of your Parish which adjoins Pirbright. The surface layers of the Middle and Lower Bagshot sands, although porous are yet very retentive of water, and hence the amount of mist which prevails in the District at certain seasons of the year.

The *Water Supply* is chiefly derived from the (1) mains of the Woking Water Company, and from (2) shallow or surface wells.

1. *The Woking Water Company.*

The Company obtains its supply of water from a well sunk at a point on the northern slope of the Albury Downs, a little to the south of the main road from Epsom, where the chalk is at the surface.

This well was sunk in 1883 to a depth of a little more than 100 feet, from which shaft a large supply of water has since been drawn.

This supply has been augmented by driving horizontal galleries in the chalk in a westerly direction across the slope of the beds, and 30,000 to 40,000 gallons an hour can now be pumped from this station.

In the exceptionally dry summer of 1887, and subsequently, the Company found it advisable to augment its supply by sinking shafts and driving horizontal galleries from them in the chalk south of the village of West Horsley, where an additional pumping station has been erected, increasing the supply by upwards of 200,000 gallons per day, from a length of about 1800 feet of horizontal galleries.

At a moderate computation, based on the assumption that 8 inches of rainfall per annum can be made available over the Company's gathering ground, the average daily quantity of water eventually available for pumping will exceed 2,000,000 gallons per diem.

The Company's district stretches from the Fox Hills and Chobham Ridges on the west to Pyrford, Ockham, and to beyond East Horsley on the east, and from the summit of the Hackhurst and Albury Downs on the south to the villages of Bisley and Horsell on the north.

The supply of water to this Company's district is at present adequate in quantity, and is of undoubtedly good quality, and there is every reasonable prospect of the supply being increased as the consumption increases in the District.

The water has been frequently analysed with most satisfactory results. It is well aerated and free from organic impurity, but it is rather charged with lime salts. One or two of the large institutions in the Parish have adopted measures for extracting a great proportion of these salts, so diminishing the hardness and rendering the water all the better adapted for washing and culinary purposes, as well as preventing the furring of pipes and boilers, which I believe takes place with the water not thus treated. The process does not appreciably alter the taste, though it affects the aëration and beautiful lustre of the water.

2. The *Wells* in the district are all shallow, few being more than 20 feet deep, and many much less than that. The water reaching these wells is consequently almost entirely surface water, and is, therefore, easily contaminated by leaky cesspits, &c., and I am of opinion that wherever the Company's mains exist owners of old and new property should be urged to obtain this valuable water supply.

The history of all nations of which we possess any record proves that as they advanced in the scale of civilisation they made greater efforts to supply their communities with an abundance of pure water. In each case it would appear that the cumulative experience of ages had taught the same lesson—that perfect health could not be attained without the use of considerable quantities of water, and that for many purposes it was imperatively necessary that the water should be hygienically pure.

III.—Meteorology.

For the following summary as to the rainfall in Rural Surrey in 1894 I am much indebted to Admiral J. P. Maclean, R.N., of Cranleigh.

The rainfall of 1894 was, contrary to general opinion, not exceptionally great in England, except in the south-western counties—Surrey, Sussex, Hants, and Dorset. In the Midland counties the fall was even below the average. In Surrey, January and July were very wet months, the latter month being distinguished by two very heavy downpours—one of one and one-half inches on the 10th, and one of nearly two inches on the 29th. From the 19th October to the 17th November there were only two days without rain, and nearly ten inches fell, causing slight floods. The amount of rain registered at eleven stations in this district will be found interesting.

	Jan. in.	Feb. in.	Mar. in.	Apr. in.	May in.	Jun. in.	July in.	Aug. in.	Sep. in.	Oct. in.	Nov. in.	Dec. in.	Year. in.
Cranleigh Common ...	4·8	1·9	1·7	2·7	2·2	3·0	6·1	2·3	2·2	4·6	5·2	2 2	39·2
Cranleigh School	4·4	1·6	1·4	2·4	2·0	2·7	5·4	2·2	2·1	4·6	4·3	2·2	35·3
Willinghurst	4·4	1·3	1·6	2·6	1·8	2·4	5·0	2·0	2·0	5·1	5·0	2·2	35·5
Winterfold	4·2	1·9	1·5	2·4	1·8	2·7	5·6	2·6	2·2	5·1	5·8	2·2	38·3
Coneyhurst	4·9	2·2	1·7	2·5	2·1	2·7	5·7	2·8	2·2	4·8	5·4	2·2	39·4
Heathside	4·6	2·2	1·8	2·5	2·0	2·8	5·9	2·5	2·1	4·6	5·1	2·3	38·6
Malquoits	4·8	2·1	1·6	2·5	2·1	2·7	5·5	2·4	2·0	4·0	4·9	2·2	36·8
Hascombe	4·1	1·8	1·5	2·5	1·7	2·7	5·0	2·1	2·3	4·9	4·4	2·1	35·1
Hambleton	4·2	1·7	1·6	2·4	1·6	2·3	5·1	2·1	2·5	4·7	4·7	2·0	35·0
Dunsfold	4·6	1·1	1·2	2·2	1·8	2·2	4·0	1·2	1·8	4·9	5·8	1·5	30·3
Hall Place	Not registered monthly.												34·8

Mean 36·2

At Hall Place the rainfall for the year was the greatest since 1878.

IV.—Vital Statistics : Births and Deaths.

1. Supposing the *Population* of the Parish had been increasing at the same rate during the past year as it had during the previous inter-censal period, it would be estimated during the middle of the year at 8656, exclusive of the 1880 inmates of the Public Institutions enumerated below ; or, exclusive of this latter population, a little more than an acre per each inhabitant,

As a matter of fact, the population of Woking has grown at a greater rate during the three years ending June, 1894, than in any previous similar period, and nearly every habitable house was occupied; and I gather from the rate-book, on the basis of there being five people to a house, that the *Population* may be more correctly estimated at 9660, exclusive of the inmates of Public Institutions.

In addition to this *Population*, there are living in Public Institutions a total of 1880 people, namely:—(1) Brookwood Asylum and its staff quarters, 1250; (2) Woking Female Prison and its staff quarters, 350; (3) Mayford Industrial School and its staff quarters, 180; (4) St. Peter's Home, 100. This makes a grand total of 10,536.

2. The number of *Births* registered in the Parish during the year was 274. The *Birth-rate* for the year, therefore, was 31·5 per 1000 of the population, estimated as above.

3. During the year the number of *Deaths* registered in the Parish, exclusive of those which occurred in the Public Institutions, was 100, to which must be added two deaths in the Guildford Workhouse, one in the Isolation Hospital, and one in the Surrey County Hospital, of persons belonging to the Parish. These 104 deaths represent an *Annual Death-rate* of 12·0 per 1000 of the population, estimated as above.

If the population were estimated on the basis of five persons to a house—that is, 9660, which appears to be the more correct estimate—then the *Death-rate* would be only 10·7.

4. As to the *Mortality among Children*, the deaths of infants under one year were 34 in number, and were equal to 8 per cent. of the registered births.

5. The deaths from *Pulmonary Consumption* (six in number) were at the rate of ·6 per 1000 of the estimated population; while the deaths from *other lung diseases* (bronchitis, pleurisy, and pneumonia) were nine in number, and were at the rate of 1 per 1000 of the estimated population.

(See also Table I. at end of the Report.)

As to the above rates, Dr. Beale Collins, in his Annual Health Report for Kingston-on-Thames, quoting from Ransome on Vital Statistics, points

out that such death-rates as 12 and 10 per 1000 through a series of years are *impossible death-rates*. A death-rate of 10 per 1000 means that every person in the place must live to an average of 100 years, and of 12 per 1000 to an average of 83. Consequently, for every one dying under those ages it is necessary that some others must live to a correspondingly increased age, and that in Woking there would be very many people living, over 100 years of age.

It will, however, be seen from Table III. at the end of this Report, and for which valuable table I am very much indebted to my friend and predecessor, Dr. E. L. Jacob, that the mean *Annual Death-rate* for the Parish of Woking for the last ten years is only 14.0. This, together with the *Zymotic Death-rate* and the few deaths from *Pulmonary Consumption* and other lung diseases, speaks for itself as to the health of the District. No comment is therefore needed from the Medical Officer of Health as to the healthfulness and advantages of this large District as a residential resort, whilst the natural beauty of the Parish is a great attraction.

V.—Summary of Sickness and Mortality from the Seven Principal Zymotic Diseases, and from certain other Diseases, which have to be Notified under the Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889.

1. *Small-pox*. There was no case in the District during the whole year.

2. *Scarlet Fever*, otherwise called *Scarlatina*. There were only two cases during the first quarter of the year, and these occurred in previously-infected premises at Knaphill. One of the cases was removed to the Isolation Hospital at Guildford.

During the second quarter of the year, in the month of *April*, three cases were notified in a house in the Maybury Road, and the disease was imported from a house where the patients were staying at Stratford-on-Avon, in which house the affection was in existence. One case was removed to the Isolation Hospital. After the freedom the District had

enjoyed from *Scarlet Fever* during the early months of the year, there was a sharp and sudden outburst of the disease in the month of *May*, no less than fourteen attacks having occurred in nine houses, eleven of the patients we fortunately got into the Isolation Hospital. Ten of the cases were in families whose children attended the Maybury Board School, eight having actually attended the school. The first case arose, probably, outside the school, and was reported on the 6th *May* from Goldsworth Road. The onset occurred forty-eight hours after wearing a new and ready-made suit of clothes, and then the disease seems to have been transferred by this case to four others before the 9th *May*. After that there was a lull for a few days, when again five other cases broke out in quick succession before the 27th. After that I got the outbreak well under control, and during the month of *June* only three more cases occurred associated with the same cause, one of which was in a previously-infected house—namely, the Police Station—and the other two in separate houses, and all went to the Hospital. I did not close the school, but I examined the children there, and put myself in close communication with the school authorities. I personally visited every infected house (with the exception of a medical practitioner's coachman's cottage), and sometimes the adjoining houses. I stopped all school attendance from every infected house and every possibly infected house, and I feel sure that, having every infected case under supervision, there was less risk incurred in keeping the other children together at school and under discipline and intelligent observation, as inculcated by the well-known Medical Officer of Maidstone (Mr. M. A. Adams, F.R.C.S.), than by sending them home to run loose upon the streets, and out of sight and beyond the reach of discipline. Anyhow, this outbreak was clearly thoroughly checked in the way I have described.

Of the other cases which occurred during this quarter of the year, one occurred in a medical student in the Guildford Road, who brought the fever with him from Reading, and the other four occurred in a single house in Chertsey Road, and I could not definitely trace the origin, but these last four cases all went to Hospital.

During this quarter of the year there were altogether twenty-two cases notified in fourteen houses, and as many as seventeen went to the Hospital.

During the third quarter of the year thirteen cases were notified in July in ten houses, and twelve of the patients went to Hospital, whilst in *August* there was one notification and in September two, and one of these patients went to Hospital.

In the first month (*July*) of the quarter, owing to a child coming from an infected house in the Maybury Ward without my sanction, and playing with its schoolmates attending the Maybury Board School, the disease was again spread amongst some other children attending the same school, the result of which was, altogether, six children were attacked in five premises in Goldworth, Heath Side, Walton, and Poole Roads, and in the Canal Boat House. All of these children went to the Isolation Hospital, and enforcing even more strenuously the precautions I had already adopted no other cases occurred in connection with this school for the rest of the year. When the school re-assembled after the autumn holidays I examined every child as a further important precautionary measure.

In the month of *July* there also occurred two cases, one in the Poole Road, and another in Church Street, not associated with the school and not attending it, whose origin I could not trace. One was accidentally discovered peeling, by a medical gentleman who was attending the house for another disease. Both ~~parties~~ went to the Hospital. Of the other cases occurring in *July*, two were at Knaphill in the same house, two were in a farm-^{patient}house at Mayford, and another at Kingfield in the Village Ward. The source of these outbreaks could not be definitely traced, but with the exception of the cases at Mayford the patients, who were children, went to the Hospital.

The single case occurring in *August* was in the Woking Prison quarters, whilst of the two cases in *September* one was in a house at Mount Hermon, and the patient had been recently staying at Kingston, and the other was in the Woking Village, and broke out twenty-four days after the little patient's brother had left the Isolation Hospital, where it was also sent.

This was the first "return" case at the Hospital during the year. In the last quarter of the year, and indeed after *July*, *Scarlet Fever* was very

little prevalent in this extensive district. Only one case occurred in *October*, in a nurse, the wife of a labourer at the Prison, who went to the Isolation Hospital. In *November* there were two cases notified, one a child in the Maybury Ward and the other a married woman in the Village Ward. Both went to the Hospital. The latter was from another "return" case from the Isolation Hospital, the child of the patient having only been out of Hospital four days when the mother was attacked. It was in the same family alluded to as to where there was a "return" case in August. There was no visible source of infection in either child upon leaving the Hospital, and they were both pronounced by the medical gentlemen who subsequently saw them to be personally free from infection. One was in Hospital sixty-three days and the other fifty-four days, and the utmost care had in each case been taken in disinfecting the premises and clothing, and these two members of the same family were the only "return" cases during the year. There were no notifications after November 18th. There were altogether during the year 44 cases, in 31 premises, and 35 went to the Hospital (Wards). It will be seen from this summary that, with the exception of the Maybury School outbreak, there was little *Scarlet Fever* in the District during the year and not one case proved fatal.

3. *Diphtheria*. Altogether nine cases were notified in nine houses, and four went to the Isolation Hospital. Two of the patients died in Woking, and a third at the Hospital, but the latter, a boy of ten years, was moribund when admitted. The first case notified was in *January*, and in Claremont Avenue, and in a house where "sore throat" had been prevalent. The second case was also in *January*, and was at St. John's, and proved fatal. The source could not be traced. In *March* a case was notified at Knaphill, and was imported from Hackney by a patient suffering with the disease. He was seen by a medical practitioner at Hackney one morning, and pronounced to be suffering from *Follicular Tonsillitis*, and was sent by his employer—a seed salesman—by train to the City, thence by omnibus to Waterloo, and after the railway journey to Brookwood he was conveyed in a fly to Knaphill, where he was immediately seen by a local medical practitioner, who diagnosed *Diphtheria*, and at once sent him to the Isolation Hospital, where he was admitted suffering from a very virulent type of the disease. Three cases were

notified in *April*—one in the Goldsworth Road, which went to hospital, the second at Knaphill, and the third in the Sutton Ward. The next two cases occurred in *May*; both patients lived at Knaphill, and both died, one at his own home and the other on arrival at the hospital, and though I made the most careful inquiry, I could obtain no reliable evidence as to how these cases arose, and they were in no way connected with each other. The ninth and last case was imported from Kensal Green, and was notified in *October*. The patient, a young man, came from that place one morning suffering from sore-throat, to stay with friends in the Goldsworth Road, and shortly after his arrival was seen by a medical practitioner, who pronounced him to be suffering from *Diphtheria*, and sent him to the Isolation Hospital. With the exception of this case, the District was free from *Diphtheria* from *May* till the end of the year.

4. *Enteric* (otherwise called *Typhoid*) *Fever*.

There were four cases notified during the year, one of which proved fatal. The first case was in *January*; a patient in the Woking Village, and was of a very mild type, the patient being up on the third day, and there was no evidence forthcoming as to its origin. The second case was notified from St. John's, in a middle-aged gentleman who travelled daily to London. It seemed possible it might have been contracted out of the district. The patient died. The third notification came from the Station Ward, and the patient was a cook who was employed in numerous houses in and out of the District, and it was impossible to say how or where she contracted the disease. She was treated in the Isolation Hospital. The last case occurred in the Mayford Industrial School buildings, in the wife of one of the labourers. At the time a most careful enquiry was instituted by the authorities, the Medical Officer, the Medical Attendant, and myself. Nothing could then be discovered to account for the outbreak, but later on some suspicion was attached to the milk, which was obtained from a farm other than the contractor's, and not the supply sanctioned by the London County Council, to whom the school belongs.

5. *Measles* were not very prevalent, and no death from *Measles* was registered during the year.

6. *Whooping Cough* was prevalent towards the end of the year, and four deaths occurred in *December*, in addition to one death in *August*. They were all in infants under sixteen months of age.

7. *Diarrhæa* caused no death.

The total deaths from these seven zymotic diseases ~~was~~ ^{was} eight, viz., two from *Diphtheria*, one from *Typhoid*, and five from *Whooping Cough*. The annual *Zymotic Death-rate*, therefore, was equal to .8 per 1000 of the population.

As to the other diseases which have to be notified under the above-mentioned Act.

There were no cases of *Puerperal Fever* during 1894.

Of *Erysipelas* there were ten cases notified in six premises, five occurring at the Brookwood Asylum. They were mostly slight cases.

VI.—Action taken for Preventing the Spread of Infectious Disease.

The method I adopted for the prevention of the spread of *Scarlet Fever* I have already described on page 10.

As to *Diphtheria*. Shortly after the Authority had been constituted I kept a careful supervision over the throats of at least nearly all the children attending school, and printed notices were sent to every school in the recently-infected districts, and school managers and attendance officers were asked to exercise the greatest precaution on the re-assembly of the scholars after holidays. During the past year, after the re-assembly of the school, I have, as far as possible, personally examined the throats of the children attending the principal schools, and sometimes at the homes of the children where "*Sore Throat*" has been prevalent, but more especially at the schools themselves. At the latter I adopt the following method: Armed with a couple of nickel-plated tongue depressors, a few clean towels, and a laryngeal mirror, I ask for one or two basins of hot water, which I frequently change. Whilst examining the throat with one tongue depressor the other remains in the water, and in this way I systematically examine, at suitable times, every child attending school, and I rigidly exclude every child where there is the least suspicion of *Sore Throat*, and

with few exceptions I have been able to keep these cases from school till the throat has become normal. If the *Diphtheria* bacillus is available, the chances of a normal throat being attacked is nothing compared to what would occur in the presence of sore throats generally. In some cases of enlarged tonsils and elongated uvulæ I have advised removal, and this has usually been adopted where recommended. It is obvious that if the schools are attended only by children with normal throats the risk of infection by *Diphtheria* is minimised, and given that the Medical Officer of Health only has the time, our inspection of the schools on first assembling after holidays must be an invaluable preventive method. I can say very positively, not only in Woking, where there has been so very little *Diphtheria*, but more especially in my other Parishes, that since I have adopted this measure I have noticed a marked absence of *Diphtheria*, or, anyhow, a remarkable diminution of the disease in those districts where the disease was formerly so persistently prevalent. I need scarcely say I visited all the initial cases, and absolutely excluded all members of the infected houses from school. Further, it should be noted, that having all the throat cases under supervision and discipline, occasion does not seem to arise for closing the schools, and for *Diphtheria* no less than for *Scarlet Fever*, as mentioned above, I have not closed one single school in any of my Districts during the past year. On the other hand, I naturally play havoc with the school attendances in weeding out all the throat cases, however trivial, and it is high time the Educational Acts were adapted to the times, and that if the school grants are made according to the average attendances, that those cases, in the interests of the public health, excluded from attendance by the Medical Officer of Health or by other medical certificate should count as though they were actually attending during the whole of the absence prescribed.

The following further action, as adopted by my predecessor, was taken for preventing the spread of some of these diseases :—The houses infected with *Scarlet Fever*, *Diphtheria*, *Erysipelas*, *Membranous Croup*, *Puerperal Fever*, *Doubtful Continued Fever* or *Enteric Fever* were visited ; disinfectants were supplied, and their proper use explained ; isolation of the sick was inculcated, and was, in many cases, secured by their removal to the Sanitary Authority's Isolation Hospital ; nuisances, when found on the premises, were abated as far as was practicable ; the well water, when

suspected, was analysed ; and after the recovery, death, or removal of the sick, the final cleansing and disinfecting of the houses and articles were secured, the first stage of the disinfection, viz., that by sulphur-fumigation, having been performed at most of the cottages by the Sanitary Inspector. Infected articles were removed from most of the houses, together with the patients, and from many other houses after the illnesses were over and were disinfected by hot air at the Isolation Hospital ; infected articles were also destroyed at several houses, and compensation was given.

The number of persons who were admitted into the Isolation Hospital from Woking was, *Scarlet Fever* 35, and *Diphtheria* 4, and one of the latter died a few hours after arrival, but he was moribund on admission.

A synopsis of all other patients treated in the Hospital during 1894 appears under Sec. VII., page 18.

VII. — Guildford, Godalming, and Woking Joint Hospital Board.

1. *Isolation Hospital.*

Previous to the constitution of the Parish of Woking as an Urban District, at the end of 1893, and in the early part of the same year, the Local Government Board issued their Provisional Order forming the Guildford Rural, Guildford Urban, and Godalming Urban Sanitary Districts into an United District, for the purpose of providing an Isolation Hospital for the joint use of persons residing in the United District, and the Order was subsequently confirmed by Parliament. The Parish of Woking was then included in the Guildford Rural District, and shortly after the formation of this Parish into an Urban Sanitary District I strongly urged the new Authority to make application for the admission of their District into the existing United District.

A Local Government Board Enquiry was held at the Town Hall, Guildford, on the 1st of *February*, 1894, and was conducted by Thomas Codrington, Esq., M.Inst.C.E., with regard to adapting the Provisional Order to the representation of the newly-constituted Woking Urban District.

An Order was subsequently issued by the Local Government Board under Article XXI. of their Provisional Order of the 27th *April*, 1893, and under the style of the "Guildford, Godalming, and Woking Joint Hospital

Board," Woking was henceforth entitled to two representatives on the Board, Guildford Rural five, Guildford Urban four, and Godalming two.

On the 1st *February*, at the Guildford Town Hall, a second Local Government Board Enquiry was conducted by Thomas Codrington, Esq., M.Inst.C.E., and H. T. Bulstrode, Esq., M.D., as to the application of the Joint Board for sanction to borrow £8000 for the provision of a Hospital. This was to purchase from the Rural Sanitary Authority their Hospital premises and furniture at an agreed sum of £5926 and one acre of land, belonging to the Guildford Corporation and adjoining the Hospital, for £315. The remaining £1759 which made up the £8000 would be required for alterations and additions to the premises, including a new Washington Lyons Steam Disinfecting Chamber and a Laundry, &c.

On the 17th *July*, 1894, the Local Government Board sanctioned the borrowing of £5900 and £600 for Hospital purposes, and on condition that Small-pox patients should not be treated on the same site; and the loans having been borrowed from the Liverpool Victoria Legal Friendly Society for thirty years and fifteen years respectively at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., the purchase money of £5926 for the Hospital premises and £315 for the acre of land adjoining having been paid, the properties were transferred to the Guildford, Godalming, and Woking Joint Hospital Board on the 29th *September*, 1894. The balance was held in reserve for the proposed alterations, which, however, had not been commenced before the close of the year, though urgently required for the greatly-increased demands on the Joint Board Hospital, particularly with respect to the nursing accommodation, disinfecting apparatus, and proper baths for the patients, &c.

At present there is accommodation for 40 patients, allowing each patient 2000 cubic feet air space and 140 square feet floor space per bed. This number of patients should never be exceeded.

2. *Isolation for Small-pox Patients.*

The Local Government Board having refused their sanction to any loan for the Joint Board so long as Small-pox patients were treated on the same site, it became necessary to look for a site elsewhere for the treatment of such cases. The difficulty was increased from a statement of the Local Government Board that it was not their practice to sanction

any loan for the erection of a Small-pox Hospital which would have within a quarter of a mile of it as a centre either a Hospital, whether for infectious diseases or not, or a workhouse or similar establishment, or 30 to 40 dwellings (150 to 200 inhabitants); or for the erection of a Small-pox Hospital which would have within half a mile of it 90 to 120 dwellings, or one or more institutions which, collectively and with any dwellings, contain some 500 to 600 inhabitants. The Joint Board were also given clearly to understand that they would not receive the sanction of the Local Government Board to any future loan should a Small-pox Hospital be erected within half a mile of their Isolation Hospital at Woodbridge; and, on the other hand, no Small-pox Hospital would receive the sanction for any loan if erected within a similar distance from the Isolation Hospital.

On the 6th *October* the Joint Board purchased for the sum of £400 a cottage and nearly three acres of land in an isolated position on Whitmoor Common, in the Parish of Worplesdon. The site comes well within the above recommendations of the Local Government Board, and is situated very conveniently for all the combined Districts, being about three miles from Guildford and Woking, and about seven from Godalming. Legal proceedings were, however, commenced in November by Richard Garton, Esq., and other inhabitants of Worplesdon with the view of preventing the Joint Hospital Board using the acquired cottage and site for the treatment of Small-pox patients. The proceedings were in abeyance at the end of the year, pending some negotiations between the plaintiffs and the Joint Board, and should these negotiations fail they have given notice that they will issue a writ in the High Court of Justice, Chancery Division, to restrain the Joint Board by an Injunction of the Court from using any part of the premises or site above referred to for the purposes of treating Small-pox patients.

3. *Synopsis of Cases in the Isolation Hospital, 1894.*

One hundred and sixty-four patients were treated in the Hospital during the year 1894. At the commencement of the year there were remaining in Hospital 32 patients—namely, *Scarlet Fever*, 21; *Diphtheria*, 10; and *Typhoid*, 1. Of these 21 *Scarlet Fever* patients 8 belonged to the Guildford Rural District, 3 to the Borough of Guildford, 3 to the Borough

of Godalming, and 7 to the Woking Urban District ; of the 10 *Diphtheria* patients, 4 belonged to the Guildford Rural District, 3 to the Borough of Guildford, and 3 came from the Stoughton Barracks, whilst the case of *Typhoid* came from Godalming. During the year there were 132 fresh admissions—namely, *Scarlet Fever*, 75 ; *Diphtheria*, 56 ; and *Typhoid*, 1. Of the 75 cases of *Scarlet Fever*, 24 belonged to the Guildford Rural District, 11 to the Borough of Guildford, 7 to the Borough of Godalming, and 33 to the Woking Urban District. Of the 56 admissions from *Diphtheria*, 30 belonged to the Guildford Rural District, 17 to the Borough of Guildford, 1 to the Borough of Godalming, and 4 to the Woking Urban District, whilst 2 were accidentally admitted from Holmbury St. Mary, in the Dorking Rural District. The case of *Typhoid* came from Woking.

There were 13 deaths in the Institution, and all from *Diphtheria* ; 7 deaths were in-patients belonging to the Guildford Rural District, 5 to the Borough of Guildford, one to the Urban District of Woking, whilst the last belonged to Holmbury, in the Dorking Rural District.

The number of persons who were admitted into the Hospital, and the number who died there in each year, since the hospital was opened, with the nature of their illness, is shown in the following Table :—

From what Districts.	YEARS.	Small-pox.		Scarlatina.		Diphtheria.		Enteric Fever.	
		Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
Guildford (Rural)	1885	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1886	2	1	4	...	2	...	...	...
	1887	...	...	25	1	8	1	5	3
	1888	...	...	14	2	4	...	7	2
	1889	...	...	54	1	3	2	11	5
	1890	...	...	18	...	5	...	9	...
	1891	...	...	12	...	14	4	2	1
	1892	...	...	31	1	19	2	2	...
	1893	...	...	80	...	94	33	1	...
	1894	...	...	24	...	30	6	...	...
Guildford (Urban)	1893	14	4	12	...	23	12	1	...
	1894	...	...	11	...	17	5	...	...
Godalming (Urban)	1893	...	...	9	...	...	...	1	...
	1894	...	...	7	...	1	...	...	...
Farnham (Rural)	1893	...	...	...	...	3	1	...	...
Dorking (Rural)	1894	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...
Woking	1894	...	...	33	...	4	1	...	...

VIII.—Summary of other Sanitary Proceedings, &c., which were taken during the year.

1. *Sanitary Committee.*

As soon as the District was constituted an Urban Sanitary Authority a Sanitary Committee was appointed, to whom the Authority delegated powers with reference to nuisances, water supply, infectious diseases, disposal of sewage and refuse, the supervision of slaughter-houses, dairies, cowsheds, and milk shops.

2. *The Adoptive Acts.*

As early measures the usual statutory notices were given as to the adoption of the Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889, the Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890, and the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890.

3. *Building Bye-laws, &c.*

Building Bye-laws were framed on the lines of the Model Bye-laws, and received the sanction of the Local Government Board.

4. *Water Supply.*

Early application was made to the Local Government Board to be vested with certain powers under the Public Health (Water) Act, 1878. In *April* an enquiry was held by the Local Government Board, in the Authority's Board Room, by Rienzi Walton, Esq., which resulted in the necessary powers being granted.

5. *Systematic Scavenging.*

Before the District was constituted an Urban Authority no system of any kind for the disposal of sewage and house refuse existed. At the commencement of the year a system of scavenging for the Woking Station and Maybury Ward was introduced. The work consists of emptying about 450 pail-closets weekly, whilst the house refuse is removed from about 930 houses fortnightly. Plant, consisting of pump, three water-

tight cesspool carts, hose, &c., were purchased (cost £140) to enable the Authority to make arrangements for the emptying and cleansing of cesspools in these Wards.

The Authority, free of charge, provide for (*a*) the removal every week of the contents of all earth or pail-closets; (*b*) and the removal of ordinary house refuse every fortnight. They have also made arrangements for (*c*) the emptying of cesspools in the above-named Ward, and the carting away of the contents thereof, at a charge varying according to the size of the cesspool, the tariff being regulated on a very fair sliding scale.

During the year 230 cesspools were emptied and cleansed, whilst nearly 1000 loads of refuse were removed in this Ward.

The system of scavenging as adopted in this Ward has been so successful and so appreciated that it might be well extended to other populous parts of the Parish.

The question of the drainage of the Station Estate engaged the serious attention of the Authority for a considerable portion of the year. In the early part of the year, in the Guildford Court of Summary Jurisdiction, proceedings were taken against the owner of the land for allowing the cesspools to overflow and become a nuisance, and in this important action the Authority proved successful. Owing, however, to the insolvency of the owner, the land changed hands several times, and caused great difficulties, for it was not till the middle of *November* the name of the responsible owner transpired.

6. *Works of Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.*

A most important and eventful action of the new Authority was to take steps to formulate a scheme for the drainage of that portion of the Parish known as the Station and Maybury Ward. For this purpose seven Engineers were asked to send in schemes for competition, and the Authority decided to seek the opinion of Professor Hy. Robinson as to their various merits. His report was not favourably received by the majority of the Authority, and in *July* the Authority's Surveyor (Mr. G. J. Wooldridge,

C.E.) drew up a descriptive synopsis of the outlines of the various schemes, and eventually the Authority decided to adopt the one propounded by Mr. W. H. Radford, M.Inst.C.E., of Nottingham. An application was thereupon made to the Local Government Board for their sanction to a loan of £30,000, and for that purpose an enquiry was held by the Local Government Board, in the Parish Room, Woking, by Major-General H. D. Crozier, Royal Engineers, on the 22nd *November* and again on the 6th *December*. The Report, however, had not been issued before the end of the year.

Mr. Radford's Scheme.

Mr. G. J. Wooldridge, the Board's Surveyor, has kindly epitomised for me a rough outline of the Scheme as propounded by Mr. Radford :—

The site of the proposed outfall is situate in the Parish of Horsell, and is part of Scotcher's Farm, on the Reading Beds, and abuts on the Dunford Bridge, Bourne, and contains $22\frac{1}{4}$ acres ; it is $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles distant from the Parish of Woking as measured along the line of outfall sewer.

Land is also required for pumping stations, of which there are three, viz.—at Arthur's Bridge, at Claremont Avenue, and the third at the outfall works. The first two are in populous parts of the District.

An area of less than half of the site proposed to be taken can only be irrigated by gravitation, a great portion of the sewage having to be previously pumped ; to utilise the remainder of the land, the whole of the sewage must be raised again by pumping machinery. A considerable length of the outfall sewer, even to command the low level area, is proposed to be constructed in the form of an *aqueduct* above the surface of Horsell Common. It also entails the construction of a long and expensive line of outfall sewer, comprising a considerable length of cast-iron pipes laid in deep tunnel, the cost of construction of this length being very difficult to estimate.

The whole sewage of that portion of the Ward on the north-west side of the Railway, between the Guildford Road Railway Arch and Trigg's Arch at Goldsworth, must be pumped, as must also that area lying on the south-east or opposite side, comprising portions of Mount Hermon,

Harris' Lane, Cross Lanes, Claremont Avenue, and the District known as Elm Bridge, which is likely to be largely developed for building purposes.

The cost of the scheme is estimated by the Engineer at £22,000, if no provision is made for Knaphill and St. John's coming in, this sum does not provide for the drainage of some of the outlying portions of Maybury, which it is most important should be included, and which the Engineer estimates at a further sum of £1260.

The cost of providing filter beds is put down at £896, but these are proposed to be constructed hereafter ; this gives a total sum of £24,156, exclusive of the purchase of land at Scotcher's Farm, land for pumping stations at Claremont Avenue and Arthur's Bridge, easements or compensations. To provide for the future drainage of St. John's and Knaphill would increase the estimate another £2000. The whole of the drainage from these districts would have to be pumped.

The large volume of sewage will have, of course, to be mechanically dealt with daily, and each station will have all the machinery in duplicate, together with tank sewers, capable of retaining the night flow.

The annual estimated cost of pumping stations and outfall works should be estimated at considerably over £400, bearing in mind the fact that the pumping stations are so far apart, necessitating the employment of two skilled artisans, one in the town and the other on the farm, apart from official supervision.

7. Rivers' Pollution Act.

Shortly after the Parish was constituted an Urban District, a complaint was received from the Thames Conservancy Board as to the pollution of certain ditches near Arthur's Bridge which discharge into the River Wey, and at the same time a notice was served requiring the Authority to discontinue the discharge of all sewage and other offensive and injurious matter into the Bourne or River Wey. The notice was acknowledged, and the Drainage Scheme already alluded to was offered as the solution of the difficulty.

8. *Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890.*

Eight houses at Knaphill which were condemned during the late Authority's tenure of office still remain unoccupied, no steps having been taken to render the premises habitable. Three other houses at Knaphill during the past year have been dealt with under Part II. (Sec. 32), and made fit for habitation. In the Maybury Ward one house was pulled down owing to it being impossible to render it fit for habitation.

9. *Slaughter-house.*

Since the adoption of the Bye-laws of the Slaughter-house Act, 1888, only one new Slaughter-house has been erected, and this has been inspected from time to time.

10. *Dairies, Cow Sheds, and Milk Shops Order.*

Number of registered cowkeepers, dairymen, and purveyors of milk							
carrying on business at the commencement of the year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Number since registered	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Number of registered premises inspected during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Total number of visits paid during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Number of cow sheds and dairies at which improvements in the							
lighting, ventilation, paving, drainage, means of cleansing, or							
water supply were made during the year							
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Number of cow sheds or dairies which were found in a filthy state...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Number of premises at which the milk vessels were found in an							
unclean state							
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

11. *Gipsies.*

Many complaints were addressed to the Authority during the year as to the insanitary conditions of the gipsy encampments at Star Hill and Kiln Bridge. In company with the Inspector I made various visits to these camps, and upon our advice notices were served on the owners of the land to provide proper water supply, privies, and drainage, and except that a proper supply of water was provided for the encampment at Star Hill, nothing further was done before the end of the year.

The Sanitary Inspector's Report and certain statistical tables will be found at the end of this Report.

In conclusion, the Authority and myself are much indebted to my predecessor, Dr. Jacob, for valuable assistance in the statistics for the period during which he was Medical Officer of Health, and especially for the most important Table III. at the end of this Report.

I also have to thank Dr. Howlin, the Chairman of the new Sanitary Committee, Mr. G. J. Wooldridge, the Authority's Surveyor, and the Registrar, Mr. Peter Macdonald, for their kind assistance.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. WELLINGTON LAKE.

Sanitary Inspector's Report for the Year ending Dec. 31st, 1894.

Number of complaints as to non-removal of house refuse, &c., received in writing	...	...	...	...	...	...	53
Number of nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	...	...	280

*Particulars of work done by Owners or Occupiers, for Abatement
of Nuisances, in compliance with notice :—*

Number of privies, drains, cesspools, ditches <i>cleansed</i> , and of accu- mulations or deposits <i>removed</i>	...	...	...	...	...	193
Number of new privies provided	...	...	...	...	...	1
Number of old privies reconstructed as pail-closets or otherwise	...	...	...	...	...	40
Number of premises at which the drains were trapped, or otherwise improved, or disconnected from the house pipes...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Number of premises at which new drains or cesspools were provided	...	...	...	...	...	3
Number of houses at which injurious overcrowding was abated	...	...	...	...	...	2
Number of houses which were cleansed, repaired, or provided with efficient ventilation	...	...	...	...	...	34

WATER SUPPLY :—

Number of samples of water analysed	...	...	...	...	2
Number of houses to which water was supplied by owners after notice	...	...	...	...	8

G. J. WOOLDRIDGE.

TABLE I.

TABLE OF DEATHS in the District during the year 1894, classified according to Diseases and Ages ; and showing also the Population of the District and the Births therein during the year.

[illegible]

The subjoined numbers have to be *deducted* from the above, in judging of the mortality of this District.

A THUS IN THE Brookwood Asylum.	106	1	3	9	73	20	Under 5																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
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* The Child of an Official.

The subjoined numbers have to be *added* to the above in judging of the mortality in this District.

PLACES IN THE DISTRICT.	MALES.	FEMALES.	Under 5	5 and upwards	TOTAL.
Workhouse of persons belonging to the District.	2	2	Under 5	5 and upwards	2 2
Royal Surrey County Hospital of persons belonging to the District.	1	1	Under 5	5 and upwards	1 1
Isolation Hospital.	1	1	Under 5	5 and upwards	1 1

TABLE II.

Showing the Sickness recorded in the District from the under-mentioned Zymotic Diseases in each month of the Year 1894.

	AGE.	Small Pox			Scarlet Fever.			Diphtheria.			Enteric Fever.			Membranous Croup.			Puerperal Fever.			Erysipelas		
		Cases.	Houses invaded.	Removed to Hospital.	Cases.	Houses invaded.	Removed to Hospital.	Cases.	Houses invaded.	Removed to Hospital.	Cases.	Houses invaded.	Removed to Hospital.	Cases.	Houses invaded.	Removed to Hospital.	Cases.	Houses invaded.	Removed to Hospital.	Cases.	Houses invaded.	Removed to Hospital.
January ..	Under 5 5 & over				1	1					1	1							1	1		
February .	Under 5 5 & over							2	2										4			
March	Under 5 5 & over				1		1	1	1	1	1	1										
April	Under 5 5 & over				1 2	1	1		3	3	1								1	1		
May	Under 5 5 & over				2 12	9	2 11		2	2	1								1	1		
June	Under 5 5 & over				1 4	4	3				1	1	1						1	1		
July	Under 5 5 & over				2 11	10	1 11												1	1		
August ..	Under 5 5 & over				1	1					1	1										
September	Under 5 5 & over				1 1	2	1												1	1		
October ..	Under 5 5 & over				1	1	1	1	1	1												
November	Under 5 5 & over				1 2	2	1 2															
December	Under 5 5 & over																					
Total in 1894.....					44	31	35	9	9	4	4	1	1						10	6		

TABLE III.

Showing the estimated Population, the Annual Birth-rate, and certain Death-rates for the ten years 1885—1894.

Year.	Population.	Number of Births.	Birth-rate per 1000.	Number of Deaths.	Death-rate per 1000.
1885	6850	252	36·5	95	13·8
1886	7050	249	35·2	118	16·7
1887	7250	261	36·0	74	10·5
1888	7450	232	31·1	84	11·3
1889	7650	223	29·1	107	14·0
1890	7850	272	34·5	128	16·3
1891	8050	239	29·5	107	13·3
1892	8250	230	24·2	134	16·2
1893	8450	283	33·4	100	11·7
1894	8650	274	31·5	105	12·1

Mean Annual Birth-rate for last ten years 32·0.

Mean Annual Death-rate for last ten years 14·0.

The deaths of Parishioners in the Workhouse, Royal County Hospital, and Isolation Hospital are included in this Table; but the population and deaths in the Woking Public Institutions are excluded.

